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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- 1 1 (Currently Amended). A reproduction apparatus providing reproduction
2 protection with a video data encoding method using a DCT (Discrete Cosine
3 Transform) method of an MPEG algorithm, for operating on main data which are
4 conveyed by a data medium, the apparatus comprising:
5 means for detecting medium protection data which are specific to said data
6 medium and are conveyed by said data medium;
7 means for generating apparatus protection data which comprise at least first
8 apparatus protection data and second apparatus protection data,
9 wherein said first apparatus protection data are specific to a region or a country
10 in which said reproduction [[apparatus,]] apparatus is to be [[used,]] used and can not
11 be modified by a user of said reproduction [[apparatus]] apparatus, and wherein said
12 second apparatus protection data can be modified by the user to selectively define a
13 plurality of protection levels including at least two levels which are respectively
14 specific to adults and to children;
15 means for defining a protection level based on said medium protection data and
16 said apparatus protection data in combination; and
17 means for executing reproduction of said main data in accordance with said
18 protection level,

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19 wherein, in response to a combination of said medium protection data with said
20 first apparatus protection data, said reproduction apparatus reproduces said main data
21 either in their entirety or not at all, and ~~in response~~ in response to a combination of said
22 medium protection data and said second apparatus protection data, said reproduction
23 apparatus reproduces said main data in their entirety, partially, or not at all,
24 wherein, for each combination of protection levels based on said medium
25 protection data and said apparatus protection data, there is a corresponding range of
26 one or more possible values of final protection level, said corresponding range
27 extending from a least severe value to a most severe value.

1 2 (Original). A reproduction apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein said
2 means for executing reproduction of said main data further comprises means for
3 executing reproduction of said main data in accordance with a value of final protection
4 level between the least severe value and the most severe value in accordance with said
5 combination of protection levels.